



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of

Katsumi Maeda et al.

Serial No.: 09/750,116

Group Art Unit: 6329

Filed: December 29, 2000

Examiner: Rosemary E. Ashton

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For: (METH) ACRYLATE DERIVATIVE, POLYMER AND PHOTORESIST
COMPOSITION HAVING LACTONE STRUCTURE, AND METHOD FOR
FORMING PATTERN BY USING IT

Honorable Assistant Commissioner of Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

RESPONSE UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.111

Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated November 29, 2001, Applicant states as follows:

REMARKS

Claims 1-23 are all the claims presently pending in the application.

Applicant gratefully acknowledges that claims 6, 7 and 20 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form. However, Applicant respectfully submits that all of the claims are allowable.

Claims 1-5, 14, 18 and 19 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 101 as claiming the same invention as that of claims 1-4, 6-8, 15, 16 and 20 of Hasegawa. Claims 1-5, 10-13 and 14-19 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Hasegawa. Claims 8, 9 and 21-23 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hasegawa.

These rejections are respectfully traversed in the following discussion.

I. THE CLAIMED INVENTION

The claimed invention is directed to a (meth)acrylate derivative which may be used, for example, in a photoresist material.

Conventional materials do not possess the novel characteristics needed for